

2.0 SUMMARY OF PUBLIC REVIEW PROCESS

2.1 NOTICE OF PREPARATION / INTENT AND SCOPING

The EIR process for the AT&T Asia America Gateway Fiber Optic Cable Project began with distribution of a Notice of Preparation (NOP) by the CSLC, mailed on November 11, 2007. The CSLC provided a NOP for the proposed Project to responsible and trustee agencies and to other interested parties. The NOP solicited both written and verbal comments on the EIR's scope during a 30-day comment period and provided information on a forthcoming public scoping meeting. The CSLC held two public and agency scoping meetings in San Luis Obispo, California on November 27, 2007, to solicit comments on the scope of the EIR. Written comments were received in response to the NOP from the following:

- San Luis Obispo County Department of Planning and Building; and
- Mr. Brian Stacy.

2.2 DRAFT EIR PUBLIC REVIEW

In December 2008, a Notice of Completion/Notice of Availability was distributed announcing the release of the Draft EIR. The Notice summarized the conclusions of the Draft EIR and included information on how to access the Draft EIR. It also presented the date, times, and location of the Public Hearings on the Draft EIR.

The Draft EIR was released for public review on December 3, 2008, and consisted of approximately 548 pages plus appendices, including a detailed analysis of impacts in twelve (12) environmental disciplines. A summary of public involvement opportunities during the Draft EIR review period is presented below. A list of persons, organizations, and public agencies commenting on the Draft EIR, the comments received on the Draft EIR, and responses to the comments are provided in Section 3.0 of this Final EIR.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD

In compliance with the CEQA procedures, the CSLC provided a public review period of 45 days for the Draft EIR. The public review period extended from December 3, 2008, to January 16, 2009. The lead agency allowed written comments on the Draft EIR to be submitted by mail, orally at the Public Hearings, via e-mail, and in person to the CSLC office in Sacramento.

The comments received by the CSLC during the public review period and at the public hearing are reproduced in this Final EIR along with responses to comments (see Section 3.0).

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Two public hearings on the Draft EIR were held by the CSLC on Tuesday, January 6, 2009 (3:30 p.m. and 6 p.m.), at the Embassy Suites in San Luis Obispo, California. At these hearings an overview of the proposed project was provided, as well as a brief summary of Draft EIR findings. The public was then given the opportunity to present oral and/or written testimony on the Draft EIR and its contents. The decision-making process of the CSLC was also explained at the public hearings.

EIR INFORMATION AND REPOSITORY SITES

Placing the CEQA document in “repository” sites can be an effective way of providing ongoing information about the project to a large number of people. Therefore, two repository sites in the vicinity of the proposed Project area were established. The documents were also available for review at the CSLC office in Sacramento. EIR-related documents including the Draft and Final EIR have been made available upon their release to the public at the locations listed below.

CSLC, Attn: Scott McFarlin 100 Howe Ave., #100-South Sacramento, CA 95825 Phone: (916) 574-1310 mcfarls@slc.ca.gov	Los Osos Library 2075 Palisades Ave. Los Osos, CA 93402 Phone: (805) 528-1862	San Luis Obispo Library 995 Palm Street San Luis Obispo, CA 93403 Phone: (805) 781-5991
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In addition to the printed copies, electronic copies of the both the Draft EIR and the Final EIR were made available on CD and at the CSLC website (www.slc.ca.gov/Division_Pages/DEPM/DEPM_Home_page.html).